Concordia University Pagan Society July 2001

Tidings

How to Reach Us

At Our Office

7141 Sherbrooke St. West
Room SC 03-3 (Loyola)

Office Hours
Every Thursday 6:00pm – 9:00pm
(Or by appointment)

By Phone

(514) 848-7441 Leave a message

By E-Mail

cups@fastmail.ca

By Mail

1455 de Maisonneuve West
Suite H-637-3
Montreal, QC, H3G 1M8

Meet CUPS

Come join CUPS at its monthly General Meetings. We will hold discussions on a variety of topics of interest to Pagan folk. Come out and contribute or just listen. Suggest a topic for an upcoming meeting!

Next meeting:

Time:
Friday, July 27th at 7:00pm

Place:
Campus Ministry (Room Z-105)
2090 Mackay (downtown campus)
Please call (514) 848-7441 for info.

We will be going over the events planned for the month of August, as well as taking suggestions for upcoming events or volunteers to lead upcoming Sabbats or Esbats.

NOTE: Elections for CUPS officers will be held. Positions for President, Vice-President, Scribe (Secretary) & Purse Warden (Treasurer) are open.

Executive officers must be Concordia undergraduate students (part-time or full-time) of the 2001-2002 school year.

Bulletins

* Join us at cupagans@yahoogroups.com (an electronic mailing list setup for CUPS). It's a great place to receive the latest news about CUPS and to get into some very lively discussions.

To subscribe, send a message to:
cupagans-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
To unsubscribe, send a blank email to:
cupagans-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
To post a message, send the email to:
cupagans@yahoogroups.com

* The Montreal Pagan Resource Centre provides a reading-only library, for pagans and non-pagans alike, to consult. A pot of coffee and tea is always available, as is contact information about professionals and artisans within the city. The Centre is a meeting place for all traditions within the pagan community of Montreal, a place for teaching, sharing and learning.
Further information, events schedules & volunteer forms available online at http://www.mprc.paganuniverse.com.
Location: 1928 St. Catherine Street West
E-mail: mprc@total.net

* Each month, the Montreal Grove hosts public full moon rituals, as well as a public Sabbat ritual.
Details can be found on their web site at http://www.cam.org/~lokigui/

About Tidings

Tidings is a free newsletter published by the Concordia University Pagan Society (CUPS) on the last week of each month.

Announcements of interest to the Pagan community will be printed free of charge.

Submissions for upcoming issues may be made by e-mail to cups@fastmail.ca, in TEXT format, or to our postal address. Bear in mind that our publication is black & white.

The deadline for any submissions is 7 days before our monthly General Meeting.

July Daze

July, the 7th month of the current Gregorian calendar & the second month of Summer's rule, derives its name from Julius (Julius Caesar).
The traditional birthstone amulet of July is the ruby; and the larkspur and the water lily are the month's traditional flowers.
July is shared by the astrological signs of Cancer the Crab & Leo the Lion, and is sacred to the following Pagan deities: Apt (or Apet), Athena, Sothis, Spider Woman, and Rosea.

July 1
The month of July opens in Nepal with the Naga Panchami festival, which is devoted to the Snake-Gods called Nagas. Sacred snake images are displayed on religious altars, offerings are made at snake holes, and parades featuring live serpents fill the main streets of many villages.
In Japan, this day is sacred to Fuji, the Japanese goddess of fire. Fuji is also regarded as the grandmother of Japan, and on this special day (which also marks the start of Mount Fuji Climbing Season) she is honored with prayers & burnt offerings.

July 2
On this day in ancient times, the citizens of Rome celebrated the Feast of Expectant Mothers. At temples throughout the city, all pregnant women gathered to receive blessings & honor Bona Dea, Carmenta, Lucina, & other goddesses associated with birth & fertility.

July 3
In Italy, this day is sacred to the Witch of Gaeta; in Greece, the goddess Athena is honored.

July 4
Day of Pax. On this day in ancient times, Pax (a Roman goddess of peace and harmony, identified with the Greek goddess Concordia) was honored with feasting and revelry.

July 5
Every year on this date, the Aphelion of the Earth takes place. When this occurs, the planet Earth reaches the point in its orbit when it is farthest from the Sun. Many astrologers consider this to be a highly significant event.
In ancient Egypt, this day was sacred to Maat, the goddess who presides over truth and wisdom.

July 6
This is a day sacred to all horned goddesses of the ancient Pagan religions: the Deer Mothers,

Europa, Hathor, Hera, Io, Ishtar, Isis, Juno, Luna, Nephthys, Pasiphae, Selene, and so forth.
In Spain, the annual Running of the Bulls takes place on this day. The bull symbolizes fertility and the male procreative power and is a sacred animal to Apis, Baal, Bacchus, Dionysos Zagreus, Dumuzi, Enki, Freya, Menwer, the Minotaur, Moloch, Sin, Thor and Yama.

July 8
On this date in ancient Rome, a nature festival known as the Nonae Caprotinae was celebrated in honor of the goddess Juno, the Great Mother. It is believed to be one of the oldest of the women's festivals.

July 9
In ancient Greece, a six-day festival called the Panathenaea began on this day every four years. It was held in honor of the goddess Athena.
On this day, Pagans around the world celebrate the divine birthdays of the wine and fertility god Dionysus and the Greek goddess Rhea.

July 10
Day of Holda. On this day, the Anglo-Saxon and Norse goddess of the Underworld is honored annually with prayers, the lighting of black candles, and offerings of rose petals.
On this day (approximately) a centuries-old festival is held in Douai, France. Wickerwork giants are paraded through the streets of the city to drive away evil-natured spirits and demons.

July 11
In ancient times, the Greek deities Kronos (Father Time) & Rhea (Mother Earth) were honored with an annual religious festival called the Kronia, which took place on this date in the city of Athens.

July 12
According to an age-old superstition, a child who comes into the world on the twelfth day of July ("the luckiest day of the year") will be destined for a life of wealth and great success.
Yama, the Buddhist god of death & the Underworld, is honored annually on this day in Tibet with an ancient festival known as the Old Dances.

July 13
On this day, the birth of the vegetation & fertility god Osiris is celebrated by many pagans of the Egyptian tradition. The annual death and rebirth of Osiris personifies the self-renewing vitality and fertility of nature.
In the country of Japan, the annual Bon festival is celebrated on this date in honor of ancestral spirits.
On this date in the year 1527, John Dee was born in London, England. He was renowned as an alchemist and was skilled in the arts of wizardry. For many years he served as the royal astrologer of Queen Elizabeth I. He died in poverty in the year 1608.

July 14
The birth of the Egyptian falcon-headed god Horus is celebrated by many pagans of the Egyption tradition on this day. Light a royal-blue altar candle & burn some frankincense and myrrh as a fragrant offering to him.

July 15
On this day, the birth of the Egyptian god Set (or Seth) is celebrated. Set is an ancient god of darkness and the magickal arts.
In China, this day is sacred to Ti-Tsang, the rule of the dark Underworld. He is honored with an annual Festival of the Dead.

July 16
Thousands of Haitians begin an annual pilgrimage to the Saut d' Eau waterfall, which is sacred to Erzulie Freda (the Voodoo loa of love and beauty) and is believed to possess miraculous healing powers

July 18
On this day, the birth of Nepthys (the Egyptian goddess of death, and sister of Isis) is celebrated.
This day is also sacred to the goddesses Arstat and Copper Woman.

July 19
The birth of the Egyptian goddess Isis is celebrated by many pagans of the Egyption tradition on this day. Isis is an ancient Mother-goddess of fertility and a Neo-Pagan deity associated with magick and enchantment.
On this date in the year 1692, Rebecca Nurse, Sarah Good, & Susanna Martin were hanged on Salem's Gallows Hill for the crime of Witchcraft.

July 20
On this date in 1980, famous Dutch clairvoyant Gerard Croiset passed away. He was renowned as both a psychic healer and psychic criminologist.
In Lithuania, the ancient goddesses of love are invoked during an annual lover's festival called The Binding of the Wreaths, taking place on this day.

July 21
The Mayan New Year is celebrated annually on this date in South America. This is a very sacred day to the Maya, who welcome their New Year with feasts and prayers in honor of the old gods.

July 22
On this date in the year 1930, the first sighting of the famous monster of Loch Ness was officially recorded in Scotland. Old Nessie (as the monster has been affectionately nicknamed) has since been witnessed by thousands of people and continues to attract countless numbers of tourists with cameras to Loch Ness each year.

July 23
The festival of Neptunalia was celebrated annually on this date in ancient Rome to honor Neptune, the lord of the sea. In Italy, many modern Witches honor Neptune on this day by lighting a blue candle, inscribed with his trident symbol & anointed with seawater, & placing it on an altar along with various objects from the sea (such as seashells, pieces of driftwood, and so forth).

July 24
On this date (approximately) the Sun enters the astrological sign of Leo. Persons born under the sign of the Lion are said to be generous, romantic, proud, and often egotistical. Leo is a fire sign and is ruled by the Sun.

July 26
The Kachina ceremony is celebrated annually on this date by the Native American tribe of the Hopi in Arizona. The kachinas (ancient spirits that are believed to guide and protect the Hopi people) are honored with religious ceremonies and a cycle of dances.

July 27
In Belgium, a centuries-old event known as The Procession of Witches takes place every year on this day.

July 28
In the olden days of Pagan Europe, the great thunder-god Thor was honored on this day with prayers for protection of the crops against destructive storms.

July 29
On this day in Tarascon, France, the annual festival of Tarasque takes place. The festival, celebrated since Pagan times, commemorates the capture of a mythical fire-breathing dragon. A decorated dragon is paraded through the streets of the city & touched by spectators for good luck and to ward off evil.

July 30
In Nova Scotia, this day is sacred to the Micmac Indian tribe. It is believed that all those who are wed or christened at this time will be blessed with happiness & good health by the Great Spirits. Saint Ann (the Mother Goddess) and Gloosca (the Father God) are honored.

July 31 August Eve, Lammas Eve, The Eve of Lughnasadh.
In pre-Christian times, the Oidhche Lugnasa was celebrated by the Celts on this night in honor of their solar deity named Lugh. His annual sacrifice at the end of the harvest ensured the fertility of the corn and grain for the next growing season.
An old August Eve tradition in rural Scotland is predicting the following year's marriages and deaths by throwing sickles into the air and then drawing omens from the position in which they fall.
On this date in 1831, famous mystic and spiritualist medium Madame Helena Petrovna Blavatsky was born in the Ukraine.